

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00 DODE-00
H-01 NSC-05 /078 W
-----110894 282223Z /15

R 272036Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5526
AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
USLOSACLANT
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 08667

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, NAC, PORG, SP, UK
SUBJ: SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN NATO: GIBRALTAR ISSUE
REF;A
) USNATO 7093 (DTG 210921Z JUL 78), (B) LONDON 11723
(DTG 241818Z JUL 78), (C) LONDON 11742 (DTG 251054Z JUL 78

1. WE FOUND THE STATEMENTS BY UK PERMREP KILLICK DESCRIBED
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IN REFTTEL (A) ON THE SUBJECT OF SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO
AND THE GIBRALTAR QUESTION DISTURBING, SINCE THEY IMPLIED
A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE BRITISH POSITION, AT LEAST AS
WE HAVE UNDERSTOOD IT. DAUNT'S REASSURANCE ON THIS SCORE
IS WELCOME.

2. THE SPANISH HAVE TALKED OF THE NEED FOR VISIBLE PRO-

GRESS TOWARD A RESOLUTION OF THE GIBRALTAR PROBLEM IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THEIR ENTRY INTO NATO. ELIAS SPOKE ALONG THESE LINES IN A JULY 21 CONVERSATION WITH THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR (REF(D)). SUCH PROGRESS IS NECESSARY TO JUSTIFY NATO ENTRY IN A POLITICAL CONTEXT TO THE SPANISH PUBLIC. BUT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY BELIEF HERE THAT A FINAL "RESOLUTION" OF THE PROBLEM WAS POSSIBLE AT AN EARLY DATE. WE ARE THEREFORE INCLINED TO INTERPRET THE REMARK ATTRIBUTED TO ELIAS IN REF(C) IN TERMS OF PROGRESS TOWARD A SOLUTION OF THE ISSUE. IN FACT, WE FORESEE NO PROSPECT FOR A FINAL "RESOLUTION" OF THE PROBLEM FOR SOME TIME, HINGING AS IT DOES ON THE ATTITUDES OF THE LOCAL POPULATION IN GIBRALTAR. WERE SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO TO AWAIT SUCH A RESOLUTION, THE EFFECT WOULD BE TO POSTPONE IT INDEFINITELY. TODMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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